



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY

Dr Marisa Paterson MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Ms Leanne Castley MLA

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
QUESTION ON NOTICE

CASTLEY: To ask the Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction

Ref: 3.1 Climate change and Energy

In relation to:

The Climate Change and Greenhouse Reduction Act requires that the Minister prepare an annual report which is tabled in the Assembly. The report will outline:

- 1. The actions taken during the year to exercise the functions required of the Minister under the Act.*
- 2. The effectiveness of government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions*
- 3. The findings of a cost-benefit analysis of any government policies or programs implemented to meet the targets.*

- (1) The Climate Change Strategy and the Living Infrastructure Plan notes that this Annual Report will include a status update on each action in each of these strategies. Why was this not included in the 2020 Minister's Annual Report?
- (2) Can a retrospective update on progress on each action be provided?
- (3) Will this be included in the 2021 Annual Report?
- (4) The 2020-2021 report includes a cost of living statement but why isn't there a cost-benefit analysis of each of the actions to meet our targets?
- (5) Can a cost-benefit analysis be provided for each of the measures in this years budget – i.e the cost of a measure and its expected greenhouse abatement?

Minister Rattenbury: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

(1), (2), (3):

The government continues to update the community on progress on key measures under the Climate Change Strategy, the Living Infrastructure Plan, and the Parliamentary and Governing Agreement. The 2020-21 Minister's Annual Report will include further information.

(4):

The Minister's Annual Report includes reporting against both the costs of actions as well as the benefits that the actions achieved.

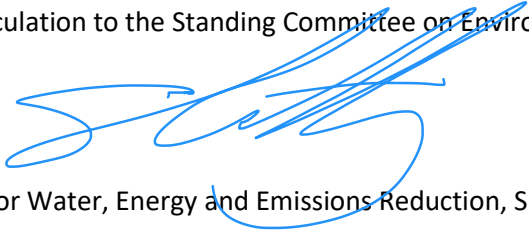
(5):

The Budget process requires rigorous consideration of the costs and benefits of all policy proposals, which are then considered by cabinet for decision. At this stage there is no requirement to assess greenhouse gas implications of budget decisions. This is why we will be introducing the social cost

of carbon as a consideration for all budget decisions, to ensure the longer term climate change impacts are considered.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Shane Rattenbury', written over the word 'Environment' in the line above.

Date:

8/11/21

By the Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction, Shane Rattenbury